

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (New) An inductive momentary-contact switch comprising:
 - a locking mechanism;
 - a sensor unit; and
 - an evaluation circuit,wherein said sensor unit comprises a sensor coil applied to a printed circuit board and a conductive actuator element, wherein
 - the distance between said conductive actuator element and said sensor coil is changeable and lockable, the distance changes being made for the purpose of changing the inductance of said sensor coil, and
 - the inductance change in said sensor coil initiates a switching function in said evaluation circuit.

8. (New) An inductive position switch apparatus comprising:
- a gearshift lever;
 - an actuator slide;
 - a sensor unit; and
 - an evaluation circuit, wherein
- said sensor unit comprises at least two sensor coils adjacent to one another on a printed circuit board and at least one conductive actuator element applied to said actuator slide,
- the coverage of the conductive actuator element of every two of said sensor coils is changeable for changing the inductance of the sensor coils by displacing said actuator slide, and
- the inductance changes of said adjacently applied sensor coils initiate switching functions in said evaluation circuit.
9. (New) The inductive position switch in accordance with claim 8 further comprising a multiplexer, the signal evaluation of said sensor coils occurring via said multiplexer.
10. (New) An inductive position switch apparatus comprising:
- a gearshift lever;
 - an actuator slide;

a sensor unit; and

an evaluation circuit, wherein

said sensor unit comprises at least two sensor coils applied adjacent to one another to a printed circuit board,

said actuator slide comprises at least one conductive actuator element,

the coverage of said conductive actuator element of every two of said sensor coils is changeable for changing the inductances of said sensor coils by displacing said actuator slide,

the inductance changes of said adjacently applied sensor coils initiate switching functions in said evaluation circuit, and

only one of said sensor coils is switched at any one time into said evaluation circuit in order to form a temperature-stable and precise switching criterion.

11. (New) The inductive position switch apparatus in accordance with claim 10 further comprising an LC oscillating circuit, wherein said LC oscillating circuit comprises said inductive sensor coils.

12. (New) The inductive position switch apparatus in accordance with claim 11 adapted for evaluating the resonance frequency of the LC oscillating circuit into which the variable inductance enters.

13. (New) An inductive switch apparatus comprising:
- a locking mechanism or a latchable gearshift lever;
 - a sensor unit; and
 - an evaluation circuit, wherein
- said sensor unit comprises at least one sensor coil disposed on a printed circuit board and at least one conductive actuator element,
- the distance of said conductive actuator element to said at least one sensor coil or coverage of every two of said at least one sensor coil is changeable for changing the inductance of said at least one sensor coil, and
 - the changes in inductance in the evaluation circuit initiate switching functions.
14. (New) The inductive switching apparatus in accordance with claim 13 further comprising an actuator slide, the coverage of every two of said at least one sensor coil occurring by horizontal position displacement of said actuator slide.
15. (New) The inductive switching apparatus in accordance with claim 13 wherein only one of said at least one sensor coil is switched at any one time into said evaluation circuit in order to form a temperature-stable and precise switching criterion.

16. (New) The inductive switching apparatus in accordance with claim 13 further comprising a multiplexer, the signal evaluation of said at least one sensor coil occurring via a multiplexer.
17. (New) The inductive switching apparatus in accordance with claim 15 further comprising a multiplexer, the signal evaluation of said at least one sensor coil occurring via a multiplexer.
18. (New) The inductive momentary-contact switch in accordance with Claim 7, wherein an alternating voltage of constant amplitude and constant frequency is injected into said sensor coil with subsequent evaluation of the current amplitudes of the variable inductance.
19. (New) The inductive position switch apparatus in accordance with Claim 8, wherein an alternating voltage of constant amplitude and constant frequency is injected into said sensor coil with subsequent evaluation of the current amplitudes of the variable inductance.
20. (New) The inductive switch apparatus in accordance with Claim 13, wherein an alternating voltage of constant amplitude and constant frequency is

injected into said sensor coil with subsequent evaluation of the current amplitudes of the variable inductance.

21. (New) The inductive switching apparatus in accordance with claim 14, wherein only one of said at least one sensor coil is switched at any one time into said evaluation circuit in order to form a temperature-stable and precise switching criterion.

22. (New) The inductive switching apparatus in accordance with claim 14 further comprising a multiplexer, the signal evaluation of said at least one sensor coil occurring via a multiplexer.

23. (New) The inductive switching apparatus in accordance with claim 21 further comprising a multiplexer, the signal evaluation of said at least one sensor coil occurring via said multiplexer.